

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident - Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region IX

Subject: POLREP #3
Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident

Maywood, CA
Latitude: 33.9961640 Longitude: -118.2011630

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From: Robert Wise, OSC

Date: 6/23/2016

**Reporting
Period:**

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:		Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	6/14/2016	Start Date:	6/14/2016
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Magnesium fire at a metal recycling and stripping company.

<p>1.1.2 Site Description</p> <p>On June 14, 2016 at approximately 0200 hours, a fire started at Panda International Trading (PIT) located at 3570 Fruitland Ave., Maywood, CA. Fruitland Ave. is a commercial/light manufacturing district. The facility holds two businesses, PIT and SOKOR Metals. PIT is a scrap metal yard that send scrap metal out in bulk for recovery. SOKOR is a precious metals recovery operation that recovers precious metals from circuit boards and other electronics. The site originally consisted of several buildings, but all were destroyed in the fire.</p> <p>During the fire approximately 300 people on Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy were evacuated.</p> <p>The evacuation was lifted homes on the Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Street on June 16, 2016, by LACoFD. The homes of the Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy that borders the site have remained evacuated due to the presence of ash throughout the properties. Approximately 31 families remain evacuated and are staying at a Red Cross Shelter.</p> <p>1.1.2.1 Location</p> <p>The site is located at 3570 Fruitland Ave., Maywood, Los Angeles Co., CA 90702 (Latitude: 33.9961640 Longitude: -118.2011630). On the southern fence line of the site is a residential neighborhood of single family homes. To the north, east and west is are light industry.</p> <p>1.1.2.2 Description of Threat</p> <p>See POLREP No. 1.</p> <p>1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results</p> <p>See POLREP No. 1.</p> <p>In order to determined cleanup action levels, the Unified Command has created a Action Levels Working Group (ACWG). The ACWG is being led by OSC Michelle Rogow. The ACWG includes representatives from EPA, ATSDR, LACoPH, and START. The initial indoor air sampling data has been received. The data is</p>			
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2. Current Activities
2.1 Operations Section

currently being reviewed by the ALWG. A discussion of this data will be in the next POLREP.			
<p>2.1.1 Narrative</p> <p>See POLREP No. 2.</p> <p>2.1.2 Response Actions to Date</p> <p>June 22, 2016</p> <p>Agencies Present: EPA, USCG, LACoFD, LACoPH, Vernon Fire Department (VFD), Los Angeles Co. Sheriffs (LACoSD) and DTSC</p> <p>Contractors Present: START, ERRS, SERAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ERRS contractor continued to conduct cleanup of residual ash. Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Act. • The Environmental Unit (ERT, START, SERAS) conducted indoor air sampling of 4 homes. • FOSC Musante (Operations Section Chief) met with the utilities to determine their needs to repair their assets on the facility site. • The EPA PIOs and CIC in cooperation with our partner agencies in the IC to release a press briefing. <p>June 23, 2016</p> <p>Agencies Present: EPA, USCG, LACoFD, LACoPH, VFD, VPD, LACoSD, EPA CID and DTSC</p> <p>Contractors Present: START, ERRS, SERAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ERRS contractor continued to conduct cleanup of residual ash. Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Act. • The Environmental Unit conducted indoor air sampling of 11 homes. • The Investigations Branch served a criminal search warrant on the site. The Environmental Unit, ERRS and the SSO provided assistance to them during their warrant. 			

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| <p>2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)</p> | | | |
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See POLREP No. 2. The Investigations Branch served a search warrant on the site to collect criminal evidence.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

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2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

The activities for June 23, 2016 include:

- Conduct air sampling in evacuated homes;
- Continue to decon of residual ash; and
- Continue planning for decon of evacuated homes;
- Initiation of cleanup activities at the outside of the evacuated homes.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Removal operations will include the following:

- Assessment of the evacuated homes;
- Decontamination of the homes on the Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
- Assessment of the site, and
- Removal of hazardous substances from the site.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

2.3 Logistics Section

2.4 Finance Section

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of additional fact sheets for affected residents and businesses. 				
2.2.2 Issues				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing access to the homes; • Determining an action level for reoccupancy. 				
LACoPH is serving as the Logistics Section Chief for the Unified Command. The ERRS contractor is handling logistics for EPA				
See POLREP No. 1. Mary Matthews has mobilized to the site as the Finance Section Chief for EPA				
Estimated Costs	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$400,000.00	\$223,865.00	\$176,135.00	44.03%
IAGs - PST	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	100.00%
TAT/START	\$380,537.00	\$98,477.00	\$282,060.00	74.12%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	(\$6,000.00)	0.00%
Total Site Costs	\$795,537.00	\$328,342.00	\$467,195.00	58.73%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

See POLREP No. 2. The Community Relations Section has been attached directly to the Unified Command.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

The Unified Commanders are EPA, LACoFD HHMS and LACoPH.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

DTSC, DPSS, LACoOEM, LACoSD, VFD, VPD, SCAQMD, LACoISD; DTSC, EPA CID, City of Maywood, City of Vernon.

4. Personnel On Site

June 22, 2016:

EPA OSC: 3 (Wise, Musante, Rogow)

EPA ERT: 1 (Eskelsen)

USCG PST: 1

USCG IMAT: 2

START: 3

SERAS: 2

ERRS: 9

June 23, 2016:

EPA OSC: 3

EPA ERT: 1

EPA RSC: 1 (Matthews)

USCG PST: 1

USCG IMAT: 1

START: 3

SERAS: 2

ERRS: 9

5. Definition of Terms

AQMD: South Coast Air Quality Management District

CERCLA: Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act

CFR: Code of Federal Regulations

CIC: Community Information Coordinator

Co.: County

DPSS: Department of Public Social Services

DTSC: Department of Toxic Substance

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

ERRS: Emergency and Rapid Removal Services (EPA Contractor)

ERT: Environmental Response Team

HCN: Hydrogen Cyanide

HHMD: Health Hazardous Materials Division

IMAT: Incident Management Team

LACoFD: Los Angeles County Fire Department

LACoOEM: Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management

LACoPH: Los Angeles County Public Health

LACoSD: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

NCP: National Contingency Plan (40 CFR 300)

OSC: On--Scene Coordinator

OSHA: Occupational Safety and Health Administration

PEL: Permissible Exposure Limit

PES: Patriot Environmental Services

PRP: Potentially Responsible Party

PST: Pacific Strike Team

PIT: Panda International Trading Co.

RM: Removal Manager

SERAS: Science, Engineering, Response and Analytical Support contractor

SOKOR: SOKOR Metals

START: Superfund Technical Assessment Response Team contractor

TDD: Technical Direction Document

TO: Task Order

TTLC: Total Threshold Limit Concentration

USCG: US Coast Guard

VFD: Vernon Fire Department

VOCs: Volatile Organic Compounds

VPD: Vernon Police Department

XRF: X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

The website for this site is located www.epaossc.org/FruitlandMgFire.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next POLREP will be June 24, 2016.

7. Situational Reference Materials

See the IAPs in Documents Section.